

task of making accurate identifications of these small and complex insects is not easy . . .

"This 'Mosquito Atlas' is primarily designed to fill this need for descriptive information in a simplified and concise form. To best accomplish this objective, the major emphasis has been placed on illustrations . . . also the treatment of each species on a single loose-leaf sheet can permit greater flexibility. That is, the more important species can be treated first; additional species can be added and interpolated later; any desired selection and arrangement of the species can be made according to the wishes of the user . . .

"Part I of the 'Mosquito Atlas' includes all of the Nearctic *Anopheles*; the important malaria vectors of the Americas; and, because the plates were available, two culicine species of medical importance. The African species *Anopheles gambiae* is included because of its possible reappearance in the Americas. Subsequent parts, now in preparation, will cover the important malaria vectors of the Old World."



#### ARMY BORROWS ACADEMY EXHIBIT

AT THE REQUEST of the United States Army, the Academy has loaned the greater part of its exhibit, "Insects Versus Men, A Never-ending War," to the Department of Enlisted Technicians at Letterman General Hospital. Reproductions of the charts will be made for use in training men to combat insect-borne diseases.



#### SNAKE BITES WHILE YOU WAIT

A RECENT ADDITION to the reptile exhibit in the Academy's North American Hall is a greatly enlarged working model of the skull of a rattlesnake. On pressing a button, the jaws of the model open and the fangs move forward into the position assumed when striking. The exhibit is not as alarming as it sounds, and observers seem to enjoy pushing the button and watching the mechanism in action.

SECTION 562 PL. & R.

# ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

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THE ACADEMY'S LIBRARY IN 1892

(From the Californian Illustrated Magazine, January, 1893)

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# CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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## *September Announcement*

THE REGULAR SEPTEMBER MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in Room 214, Simson African Hall on Wednesday afternoon, September 1, 1943, at 3:30 o'clock. The speaker will be Miss Veronica J. Sexton, Assistant Librarian of the Academy, who will take as her subject:

### THE ACADEMY'S LIBRARY, ITS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT of a scientific library was one of the original objectives for which the Academy was founded is evidenced by Article 1 of the first Constitution, adopted in 1853:

This association shall be called "The California Academy of Natural Sciences" and its objects shall be the investigation and development of Natural Science, the collection of a cabinet of specimens and a Library to embrace the standard and current works on Natural History and Natural Science, together with such choice miscellaneous literature as may be contributed by the friends and patrons of the institution.

That the "friends and patrons" whose aid was thus invoked began at once to respond to the call is indicated by an addendum to the proceedings of the meeting of September 4, 1854:

Col. Nevins presented to the Academy a receipt in full for the rent of his office and furniture, which have been used by the Academy from the 18th of April, 1853, to the last day of July, 1854, for its weekly meetings, and for storing its Library and Specimens . . . being a donation to the Academy worth at least three hundred dollars. Whereupon it was, on motion, Resolved, that the thanks of the Academy be tendered to Mr. Nevins for his liberal donation, above specified.

Within four decades the library had grown to a sufficient size to warrant the publication in 1889 of a printed catalogue, and at the turn of the century it was undoubtedly the most important scientific library in the West. Its shelves contained scientific literature from most of the great research centers of the world. It had what was perhaps the most complete Linnean collection in North America at that time, as well as all the outstanding writings of the period in botany, zoology and related fields. All of this was lost in the disaster of 1906, when the collections of 53 years were destroyed in a few hours.

The Academy's officers spent little time in bemoaning the fate of the library, but immediately began the tremendous task of rebuilding. This was done by exchange, gift and purchase. The institutions with whom the Academy previously had exchange relations were particularly generous in contributing complete sets of their publications when available, as well as numerous duplicate volumes from their shelves. Proceedings and transactions of learned societies and technical books and journals have continued to be gathered from all over the world to form the present research library, which is today the largest and most complete in the Academy's history.

Miss Sexton will recount the history of the library, and explain the services it currently renders to members, to scientific investigators and to the public. She will also exhibit a number of the rare books in the Academy's collection, some of which are to be found in no other library on the Pacific Coast.

The public is cordially invited to hear Miss Sexton.



### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its meeting of August 20, 1943, approved the applications of Mrs. J. D. Grant, Mr. Henry G. Hill, Miss Edith Grant Magee, and Mr. Howard Morrow, for MEMBERSHIP, and of Mr. Tom Sandwell, Jr., for STUDENT MEMBERSHIP, in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after August 27, they will be considered elected.



### DR. CHAPMAN JOINS O. E. W. STAFF

DR. WILBERT M. CHAPMAN, Curator of the Academy's Department of Ichthyology, has been granted a leave of absence to accept appointment as Senior Fisheries Specialist for the Office of Economic Warfare. He has been assigned to overseas duty.



### DR. ROSS PREPARES MOSQUITO ATLAS

DR. EDWARD S. ROSS, Assistant Curator of the Academy's Department of Entomology, who is serving as a First Lieutenant in the Sanitary Corps of the United States Army, has collaborated with Lieutenant H. Radclyffe Roberts in the preparation of a "Mosquito Atlas," Part I of which was recently published by the American Entomological Society. The authors state:

"Species of mosquitoes differ greatly in their habits and capacity to transmit disease. . . . By knowing what species are present in an area . . . much time can be saved and wasted effort avoided in applying control measures. Unfortunately, the